

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DYNAMIC DEVICE DRIVER SUPPORT IN AN OPEN
SOURCE OPERATING SYSTEM

ABSTRACT

A system and method for dynamic device driver support in an open source operating system is disclosed in which a device driver includes one or more driver modules in executable format and a service layer provided to the user of the computer system in an open source format. The open source service layer can be compiled against the kernel of the operating system, causing the compiled service layer to be compatible with the kernel of the operating system, including any naming conventions followed by function calls of the kernel of the operating system. Because the executable driver modules are not easily accessible, proprietary information concerning the hardware architecture may be included in these modules.